

exciting next chapter in her life and will enjoy spending more time with her husband, Cliff, and their children, Jake and Samantha.

I wish my good friend Lauren Schulman the best of luck, and I congratulate her on her retirement.

#### THE FORT HOOD, TEXAS, NINE

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Texas has been hammered by historic torrential rain and flooding.

As the Texas floodwaters rose, 12 soldiers from Fort Hood, Texas, were crossing Owl Creek in a 2½-ton Light Medium Tactical Vehicle when it became stuck in the Owl Creek low water crossing. Suddenly, the vehicle was swept over and sent downstream by fast-moving water. Nine American soldiers drowned in the massive flood waters. Today, we remember them, and here they are:

Staff Sergeant Miguel Colon Vazquez, 38, from New York. He had just spent four tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan;

Specialist Christine Armstrong, 27, of California;

PFC Brandon Banner, 22, of Florida;

PFC Zachery Fuller, 23, of Florida;

Private Isaac Deleon, 19, of Texas. He was the youngest of all of them. He had only been in the Army for 17 months;

Private Eddy Rae'Laurin Gates, 20, of North Carolina—a former homecoming queen;

Private Tysheena James, 21, of New Jersey;

West Point cadet Mitchell Winey, 21, of Indiana;

Specialist Yingming Sun, 25, of California.

These are the nine who drowned recently in the Texas floods. The soldiers were members of the 3rd Battalion, 16th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team of the 1st Cavalry Division. These American soldiers were volunteers who swore to protect the United States. They were a cut above the rest and were ready to defend freedom at home and abroad. Their lives were ripped from this world and their families all too soon.

We are grateful for them and their families for their service and their sacrifices. These soldiers are the best of America. Our thoughts and prayers are with the soldiers and their families, who have been devastated by the floods of Texas this spring.

And that is just the way it is.

#### ARIEL GRACE'S LAW

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago tomorrow, Ariel Grace's life ended before it had a chance to begin—

killed by the failure of the unsafe medical device, Essure. Despite her tragic passing, there remains no legal recourse to seek justice. That is why, on the 1-year anniversary of her death, I will introduce Ariel Grace's Law in order to resolve the broken law that prevents the families of Ariel Grace and thousands of others to have their voices heard in court.

At the same time, I will offer legislation to reform the flawed FDA process that allowed another dangerous device—a laparoscopic power morcellator—to spread deadly cancer throughout the bodies of women like shrapnel. Despite case after case, no one reported the harm to the FDA—not even their own doctors. The Medical Device Guardians Act will add doctors into the list of entities that must report unsafe devices so that lifesaving action can be taken quickly when it is needed to protect others.

The institutions and regulations that are designed to protect our constituents from unsafe devices in these cases and others have failed. It is time we take action to address them.

#### LACASA CENTER

(Mr. BISHOP of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BISHOP of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a charitable organization in my district, the LACASA Center. Located in Howell, Michigan, LACASA is celebrating its 35th year of empowering and supporting victims of abuse, assault, and violence.

LACASA's goal is to advocate for and to provide services to victims of violent crimes. It also works to educate the community on issues of domestic abuse, child abuse, and sexual assault. The services LACASA provides are instrumental in assisting members of our community, whether that comes in the form of shelter, meals, counseling, or education.

I have seen the amazing work that LACASA does firsthand, and I had the opportunity to tour the facility earlier this year. LACASA's President and CEO is Bobette Schrandt. She is a tireless advocate for those whom she serves and is an incredible asset to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to pay tribute to such a charitable organization in my district.

Congratulations, LACASA, on your 35th anniversary, and thank you for your dedication to our great community.

#### SOLDIERS CLIMB TO SUMMIT OF MOUNT EVEREST

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Second Lieutenant Harold Earls, Captain Elyse Ping Medvigy, and Staff Sergeant Chad Jukes, who successfully climbed to the 29,000-foot summit of Mount Everest on Tuesday, May 24, 2016.

Staff Sergeant Jukes is a veteran who lost his leg while fighting in Iraq in 2006, making the feat even more amazing; and Lieutenant Earls is a Third ID soldier who is currently stationed at Fort Benning in west Georgia.

The soldiers' goal in reaching Mount Everest is overshadowed by their ultimate goal of gaining support for veterans' and soldiers' mental health. With the trip to the summit, they raised \$109,000 to support the mental health groups Give an Hour and Stop Soldier Suicide. The climb was the debut of U.S. Expeditions and Explorations, which is a nonprofit organization founded by Lieutenant Earls. The entire trip, including a long preparation period, lasted over a year.

I congratulate these men for reaching the summit of Mount Everest, and I thank them for their service to our Nation and to servicemen's and -women's mental health.

#### WATER WASTING BUREAUCRACIES

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, despite our first wet winter in California in years, misguided Federal agencies threaten to cut off the water supplies of millions of Californians.

On one hand, the National Marine Fisheries Service demands that Shasta Dam releases be drastically cut, allegedly to protect winter run salmon later on in the season. On the other hand, the Fish and Wildlife Service plans to spend as much as \$150 million in buying water to drastically increase Shasta releases to the delta, allegedly to protect delta smelt—dumping water in the middle of this year.

That is right, Mr. Speaker. Federal agencies are simultaneously demanding that more water be released from reservoirs, not for human use, and that more water be kept in the reservoirs but not for human use. Neither demand is backed by science but, rather, by whim or by hunch. The only common theme of these contradictory Federal policies is that both plans give Californians the short end of the stick.

Mr. Speaker, it is time this lunacy ends and Federal agencies start making decisions based on facts, not on the contradictory whims of unelected bureaucrats, and to protect water users, especially in the North State.

#### APPOINTMENT OF INDIVIDUALS TO THE COMMISSION ON EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 3(a) of